and reduction of monopoly in the coal industry and thereby increasing the efficiency and consumer orientation.

(e) The average annual production of D,E,F, and G grades of non-coking coal in CIL and SCCL during the last three years is given below :

Grades of non-coking coal	Average annual production during the period from 1993-94 to 1995-96 (In million tonnes)	
	CIL	SCCL
D	27.18	6.14
E	30.03	9.76
F	62.47	3.64
G	NIL	0.17

The gradations from A to F is applicable to non-coking coal only.

(f) to (h) After the Government decisions taken in February 1997, SCCL have revised prices of B to G grades of non-coking coal on 15.3.1997. The likely impact of such revision by SCCL on the prices of cement and power is given below

Commodity	Impact
Cement	Rs. 2.06 per bag of 50 Kgs.
Power	Rs. 0.17 per kwh.

No coking coal is produced from SCCL mines and therefore, no supply to the steel sector from SCCL mines is being done.

CIL, the major coal producing company in the country have not so far taken any decision to revise there coal prices after the February 1997 decisions of the Government. Therefore, it is not possible to assess the likely impact of the CIL price revision after February 1997 on the prices of cement, power and steel.

[English]

Registration of Companies

4391. SHRI NITISH BHARADWAJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of limited companies registered during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of such companies closed during the above penod;

(c) whether the safeguards offered by these companies to the investing public are sufficient;

(d) the number of cheating cases that have come to light during the above period; and

(e) the steps taken by the Govt. to safeguard the interest of the general investors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The number of companies registered and closed during the last three years is indicated below :-

Year	No. of cos. limited by shares registered	No. of cos. gone into liquidation/ struck off
1993-94	30291	263
1994-95	47928	224
1995-96	56326	418

(c) to (e) The Department of Company Affairs (DCA) has an investors' protection cell which deals with complaints of investors and such complaints are acknowledged and taken up with the concerned companies for prompt redressal through a fully computerised system. The Registrars of Companies (ROCs) and the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) also receive similar complaints and take appropriate action thereon. The number of investors' complaints received and redressed by the Department of Company Affairs during the last three years [Be as indicated below :-

Year	No. of complaints received	No. of complaints redressed
1994	35,782	23,821
1995	34,031	28,085
1996	16,070	13,612

Further, the Department also takes action against the defaulting/erring companies by launching of prosecution against them for contravention of provisions of the Companies Act, 1956. The number of prosecutions launched by the Deptt. for fraudulently inducing persons to invest money was 3 in 1993-94 and for misstatement in prospectus was 4 in 1995-96. No such prosecution was launched in 1994-95.